Docket No. 072982-0219

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Applicant:	Yushi NIWA
Title:	TRAVEL INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM
Appl. No.:	09/832,926
Filing Date:	4/12/2001
Examiner:	Traci Casler
Art Unit:	3629
Confirmation No.:	5238

APPEAL BRIEF UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 41.37

Mail Stop APPEAL BRIEF - PATENTS
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The following is the Appellant Appeal Brief under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 41.37.

1.   Real Party in Interest

The real party in interest is NEC Corporation, which is the assignee of record.

2.   Evidence Appendix

There are no related evidence that will directly affect, be directly affected by or have a bearing on the present appeal, that are known to appellant, the assignee, or the appellant's patent representative. The Evidence Appendix (Section 10), attached hereto, states "None".

3.   Related Appeals and Interferences

There are no related appeals or interferences that will directly affect, be directly affected by or have a bearing on the present appeal, that are known to appellant, the assignee,

or the appellant's patent representative. The Related Proceedings Appendix (Section 11), attached hereto, states "None".

4.   Status of Claims

The present appeal is directed to claims 1, 3-8, 10-18, 20-27 and 29-38. A copy of the presently pending claims (including the claims under rejection) are attached herein in the Claims Appendix (Section 12).

5.   Status of Amendments

No amendments are being filed concurrently with this Appeal Brief.

6.   Summary of the Invention

The present invention is directed to a travel information and distribution system. As mentioned on page 1 of the specification, a traveler who has a wireless terminal can access information regarding places that the traveler is currently in or will be traveling to in the very near future. Page 2 of the specification describes that unless the traveler is staying in a first class hotel or the like, it is not easy for the traveler to obtain up-to-date information on the places that the traveler is in or will be traveling to soon. An important part of traveling is having a reasonable schedule that allows for delays associated with traveling, such as delays associated with traveling by car, train or air. The present invention provides a mechanism by which a traveler can be provided with schedule information that allows the traveler to account for sufficient time based on a particular mode of travel (e.g., by bus) and by a particular time when the travel will take place (e.g., a week from today, at noon).

Presently pending independent claim 1 recites:

A travel information distribution method comprising:

preparing a schedule table containing reference places for obtaining travel information, arrival dates and times of the reference places and distribution data to be distributed to a wireless terminal of a user in the reference places from an itinerary table of a travel; and

Since the arguments provided below with respect to the 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph rejection and the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection are partially intertwined, they will be addressed together below.

With respect to the 112, 1st paragraph rejection, the final Office Action asserts that "applicant fails to disclose of one of ordinary skill in the art would determine what the factor is for a specified day. Applicant discloses a factor table, however fails to teach how one knows what factor a day is given. What is the basis for determining a dates factor, is it a calculation? If it is historical data how does not one know how to use this historical data, what importance does different historical data have in reference to other data for a particular day? Applicant fails to disclose elements which are instrumental to determining the factor for each given date, therefore, one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention would not be able to make and/or use without undue experimentation."

Also, with respect to the 101 rejection, the Office Action asserts that "these [tolerance] calculations fail to create a concrete tangible result that is repeatable due to the fact that the factors used in the calculations are subjective. The factors appear to be a random number generated by a user of the system. The factors are randomly assigned based on prediction using historical data. However, these factors may not be determined to be the same depending on who is setting the factors. There are no specific steps set forth identifying criteria that is to be used and/or followed when making a factor determination."

In reply, the factors are not random numbers, but rather are numbers created based on specific criteria described in the specification. For example, page 24, lines 25-30 of the specification states that:

> "the factor information is a factor value to be added to the value of the
> tolerance information in order to obtain an actual tolerance depending on
> the date (year:month:day) of moving. For instance, when on the special
> day, a large delay is expected because the festival is held nearby, a factor
> value to be multiplied to a usually expected tolerance becomes larger than
> a usual factor value."

Also, as explained on page 24, lines 22-25 of the specification, it explains that "the tolerance information is the information representing a time difference (time tolerance) against an arrival time as a reference when people move by a transport means such as a train or a bus."

Furthermore, as explained on page 30, lines 1-5 of the specification,

"Fig. 10 shows a part of the factor table 176 shown in Fig. 5. The factor table 176 stores the factors representing the variation ranges of the predicted tolerances which can be caused on the respective dates by using the "dates" of the travels as keys. The factor value is set to be multiplied to the tolerance value, as described above."

Also, as explained on page 32, lines 25-30 of the specification,

"The maintenance of the factor table 176 shown in Fig. 5 includes a renewal or a reconsideration of the factor values, and a new preparation of the factor table 176. For example, when an event is held with a traffic control, the factor may change on the particular date or hours. Such a change is reflected to the factor table 176 in the maintenance work."

Still further, page 32, lines 18-24 of the specification explains that

"Regarding the tolerance table 175 shown in Fig. 5, the maintenance includes a renewal or a reconsideration of the tolerance values, and a new preparation of the tolerance table 175. For instance, when a new expressway is constructed and no tolerance arises in the moving time to the destination using a bus, the change of the tolerance value is reflected in the tolerance table 175. When a railway schedule is revised, the tolerance table 175 is treated in the same way."

Thus, as abundantly clear from the above passages in the specification, the factors in the factor table reflect events that are known beforehand to take place on a specific date and time (e.g., the date and time of the next Redskins game to be held at FEDEX field). The events that will influence traffic are determined, and the corresponding factors are then determined.

It is clear that one of ordinary skill in the art would understand from the specification that factors in the factor table are computed based on events, whereby the greater the event, the greater the factor associated with the date and time that the event will occur. It is not necessary to describe in precise terms a particular way to compute a factor in order for one of ordinary skill in the art to make and use the invention, since there can be more than one way to make such a computation. However, it is clear that no undue experimentation is needed to make and use this invention, since sufficient detail is provided to one of ordinary skill in the art regarding the creation and use of factors and the creation and use of tolerances, and how the factors affect the tolerances.

To state that the factors are subjective and thus non-statutory is just plain wrong, since once a computation criteria is provided for computing factors (e.g., Redskins game – triple the default factor; Wizards game, double the default factor), based on historical data (e.g., Redskins games played at home over the last 3 years caused on average 2 hours of delay for traversing the Northern part of the D.C. Beltway, Wizards games played at home over the last 2 years caused on average a 1 hour delay for traversing the Eastern part of the D.C. Beltway), it is a simple manner for one skilled in the art to compute the factors to be stored in the factors table. Also, it may be the case that one user assigns a different factor for a particular event than another user may assign to that same event; but again this is based on each user's knowledge of that event, and does not make such a feature non-statutory.

Is the Examiner asserting that any claim that requires a user input is non-statutory because the user input is subjective? Clearly, such a claim feature is statutory. In the same manner, while it may be the case that one user may provide a different factor value for a particular event than another user, it is important to note that the specification provides enough detail for one skilled in the art to recognize that the factor value is based on the size of an event which thereby effects travel due to that event occurring, and the particular way in which the factor value is computed is not necessary for one to obtain a concrete, tangible result using the claimed invention.

Please note that the present invention provides a "guide" for a traveler with built-in tolerances that are used, and as such is a useful tool for the traveler. Does the traveler need to know that he/she will arrive at Point B at 12:45:13? Of course not, but the traveler may need

to know if he/she has sufficient time to eat lunch at Point B before the traveler has to take a train from Point B to get to Point C. The present invention provides the traveler with a mechanism for making such a determination in advance of his/her trip.

Also, please note that the accuracy of a "factor" is enhanced through the repetitive receipt of information and the feedback on that information. The term "maintenance" on page 32, line 25 of the specification means that the repetitive feedback (e.g., experience) is used to adjust a factor. For the adjustment, information like the day of the week (weekday or weekend), the date (an event is held on that day or not), or the time (rush hour or not) are used. As the accuracy of a factor is improved by adjustments to the factor during "maintenance", more value is provided to an information provider.

In the 'Response to Arguments' section of the final Office Action, it asserts that "the specific date may not be on that same date in the future", since just because a Wizards game was played on March 1, 2006 does not mean that it would also played on March 1, 2007. In reply, the Wizards schedule for 2007 would be made well in advance of March 1, 2007 (as part of the "maintenance" data), whereby that information would be available (probably as early as a few weeks after the 2006 season has ended) to determine which future dates correspond to Wizards' home games, and thus those future dates corresponding to Wizards' home games would result in a factor value change for locations in the vicinity of the Wizards' home arena. Just like the explanation in the specification as to a revision of a railroad schedule, a new Wizards or Redskins schedule for the upcoming season would be input as part of the maintenance data.

As to the comments made in the 'Response to Arguments' section in the final Office Action that "the factors effects on the tolerance are what is in questions", both the use of factor values and the use of tolerance values are described in sufficient detail in the specification, as exemplified by the portions of the specification delineated above. The specification clearly states that "the factor information is a factor value to be added to the value of the tolerance information in order to obtain an actual tolerance depending on the date (year:month:day) of moving", and thus there is nothing unclear about that calculation and how it is used to obtain an actual tolerance for a particular date and time.

The final Office Action appears to think that the present invention does not receive any updated information about current events (see page 6 of the final Office Action), but that is not the case, since the "maintenance" data provides such updated information (e.g., upcoming traffic projects, upcoming events, etc.) to the travel information distribution system and method of the present invention.

Turning now to the assertions made in the Advisory Action, section 2) of the Advisory Action asserts that "even though the factor does change how does one know how to determine the change value . . . How does one know how to 'revise' the tolerance table based on the revised rail schedule." In reply, the specification clearly describes the use of maintenance data, whereby updated maintenance data results in recomputation of factor values. See the discussion below with respect to Section 4) of the Advisory Action as to why the specification provides ample support for one skilled in the art to determine how to compute factor values, whereby the precise equation that may be used to compute a factor value is not material to understanding how to make and use the presently claimed invention.

Section 3) of the Advisory Action asserts that: "the examiner states that if the tolerance is not for a specific DATE and TIME then historical information for a Redskins game is not appropriate considering it won't be on the same DATE the following year." In reply, the "historical data" is not necessarily data that only is to be used for the same date and time that the historical data was obtained, but rather it is for a particular type of event, e.g., a previously held Redskins games resulted in traffic of a particular amount at a particular geographical region. It appears that the Examiner has misunderstood the use of historical data in the claimed invention, since there is nothing complex or confusing about it.

Section 4) of the Advisory Action asserts that by Appellant's own admission that are various ways to compute a factor, and the Advisory Action goes on to assert that "a particular way must be taught otherwise separate individuals of ordinary skill trying to reproduce repeatable results would not all end up with the same result." In reply, please note page 29, lines 1-14 of the specification, which provides an example of how factors may be computed. Thus, for example, a factor of "1" means that there is no variation in tolerance of a limited express train due to days of the week and days in particular, whereby a factor of "2" means that twice the tolerance written in a tolerance column of a tolerance table can be predicted.

See also Figure 10 of the drawings (Factor table) and the discussion of that figure in the specification. Furthermore, please note page 28, lines 4-5 of the specification, which sets forth a definition of "factor." The fact that one person may set a different factor in a factor table for the same maintenance data as compared to another person is immaterial to operation of the claimed invention, since the specification provides clear support for how such a factor may be computed.

Section 5) of the Advisory Action takes exception to the use of "maintenance" of factors and the determining of tolerance factors and how to compute a tolerance value, as described in the specification. Again, the Examiner has misunderstood this feature, since the use of updated maintenance data, such as the use of a new bus schedule or a new train schedule, improves the calculations made by way of the present invention. For example, if the most recently held Redskins game resulted in a 4 hour delay in traffic in the Northern part of the D.C. beltway, then the factor table will be newly prepared based on this new maintenance data, and thus page 32, lines 25+ of the specification is in accord with the presently claimed invention.

Accordingly, presently pending claims 8, 10-17, 21, 27, 29-36 and 39-41 fully comply with 35 U.S.C. Section 112, 1st paragraph, and 35 U.S.C. Section 101.

9.   Conclusion

In view of above, Appellant respectfully solicits the Honorable Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences to reverse the rejections of the pending claims and pass this application on to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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10.   **EVIDENCE APPENDIX**

None

11. RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

None

12.　CLAIMS APPENDIX

LIST OF THE CLAIMS ON APPEAL (WITH STATUS IDENTIFIERS)

1.　(Previously Presented)　　A travel information distribution method comprising:

preparing a schedule table containing reference places for obtaining travel information, arrival dates and times of the reference places and distribution data to be distributed to a wireless terminal of a user in the reference places from an itinerary table of a travel; and

searching, by a data distributor, the arrival dates and times in sequential order from the schedule table prepared in the preparing step to distribute distribution data to the wireless terminal of the user at respective arrival dates and times via a network,

storing, by the wireless terminal, identifying information for identifying the distribution data distributed by the data distributor;

specifying, by the wireless terminal one of a presence and an absence of use of the distribution data related to the identifying information stored in the distribution data identifying information storage; and

notifying, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor of the distribution data specified by the specifying step after finishing of the travel,

wherein the specifying step comprises, inputting, by way of an input device provided on the wireless terminal, in which operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on a display of the wireless terminal signifies the presence of use of the distribution data, and non-operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on the display of the wireless terminal signifies the absence of use of the distribution data.

2.　(Canceled).

3.　(Previously Presented)　　The travel information distribution method comprising:

preparing a schedule table containing reference places for obtaining travel information, arrival dates and times of the reference places and distribution data to be distributed to a wireless terminal of a user in the reference places from an itinerary table of a travel; and

searching, by a data distributor, the arrival dates and times in sequential order from the schedule table to distribute distribution data to the wireless terminal of the user at respective arrival dates and times via a network;

specifying, by the wireless terminal, the places where the user has used the distribution data distributed by the data distributor;

storing, in the wireless terminal, the places specified by the specifying step; and

notifying, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor of the places stored in the storing step after finishing of the travel,

wherein the specifying step comprises inputting, by way of an input device provided on the wireless terminal, in which operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on a display of the wireless terminal signifies the presence of use of the distribution data, and non-operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on the display of the wireless terminal signifies the absence of use of the distribution data.

4.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

receiving, by the wireless terminal, a schedule table prepared by the scheduling step; and

requesting, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor to transmit distribution data at a distribution timing of respective distribution data on the basis of the schedule table received in the receiving step.

5.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 1, wherein the distribution data is distributed to the wireless terminal by an e-mail.

6.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 1, wherein the distribution data is distributed to the wireless terminal by a file described by a descriptive language.

7.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 1, wherein the distribution data includes addresses of contents on the network, and the wireless terminal accesses to the addresses to download necessary contents.

8.   (Previously Presented)   A travel information distribution method comprising:

preparing a schedule table containing reference places for obtaining travel information, arrival dates and times of the reference places and distribution data to be distributed to a wireless terminal of a user in the reference places from an itinerary table of a travel;

calculating time tolerances with respect to the arrival dates and times written in the schedule table;

correcting the arrival dates and times to earliest possible arrival dates and times on the basis of the tolerances calculated in the calculating step; and

searching, by a data distributor, the arrival dates and times in sequential order from the prepared schedule table to distribute distribution data related to the arrival dates and times corrected by the arrival date corrector to the wireless terminal of the user at respective arrival dates and times via a network;

identifying, by the wireless terminal, information storage for storing identifying information for identifying the distribution data distributed by the data distributor;

specifying, by the wireless terminal, one of a presence and an absence of use of the distribution data related to the stored identifying information; and

notifying, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor of the distribution data specified in the specifying step after finishing of the travel,

wherein the specifying step comprises, inputting, by way of an input device provided on the wireless terminal, in which operation of the input device by the user when the

distribution data is provided on a display of the wireless terminal signifies the presence of use of the distribution data, and non-operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on the display of the wireless terminal signifies the absence of use of the distribution data.

9.   (Canceled).

10.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method comprising:

preparing a schedule table containing reference places for obtaining travel information, arrival dates and times of the reference places and distribution data to be distributed to a wireless terminal of a user in the reference places from an itinerary table of a travel;

calculating time tolerances with respect to the arrival dates and times written in the schedule table prepared by the preparing step;

correcting the arrival dates and times to earliest possible arrival dates and times on the basis of the tolerances calculated by the calculating step; and

searching, by a data distributor, the arrival dates and times in sequential order from the prepared schedule table to distribute distribution data related to the arrival dates and times corrected by the arrival date corrector to the wireless terminal of the user at respective arrival dates and times via a network;

specifying, by the wireless terminal, the places where the user has used the distribution data distributed by the data distributor;

storing, in the wireless terminal, the places specified by the specifying step; and

notifying, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor of the places stored in the storing step after finishing of the travel,

wherein the specifying step comprises, inputting, by way of an input device provided on the wireless terminal, in which operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on a display of the wireless device signifies the presence of use of the distribution data, and non-operation of the input device by the user when the

distribution data is provided on the display of the wireless device signifies the absence of use of the distribution data.

11.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 8, further comprising the steps of:

receiving, by the wireless terminal, a schedule table prepared by the scheduling step; and

requesting, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor to transmit distribution data at a distribution timing of respective distribution data on the basis of the schedule table received by the receiving step.

12.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 8, wherein the calculating step comprises:

calculating the time tolerances by multiplying predetermined tolerances based on kinds of transport means for arriving at respective places by respective factors determined according to dates of moving,

obtaining a tolerance value that is subtracted from an arrival time for a particular reference place obtained from the schedule table, and

determining an updated arrival time for the particular reference place based on the tolerance value obtained.

13.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 8, wherein the calculating step comprises calculating the time tolerances by:

multiplying predetermined tolerances based on kinds of transport means for arriving at respective places by respective factors determined according to time bands of moving, and

subtracting the time tolerances from respective arrival times for particular reference places obtained from the schedule table in order to determine updated arrival times for the particular reference places.

14.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 8, wherein the calculating step comprises calculating the time tolerances by:

multiplying predetermined tolerances based on kinds of transport means for arriving at respective places by respective factors determined according to dates and time bands of moving, and

subtracting the time tolerances from respective arrival times for particular reference places obtained from the schedule table in order to determine updated arrival times for the particular reference places.

15.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 8, wherein the distribution data is distributed to the wireless terminal by an e-mail.

16.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 8, wherein the distribution data is distributed to the wireless terminal by a file described by a descriptive language.

17.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 8, wherein the distribution data includes addresses of contents on the network, and the wireless terminal accesses to the addresses to download necessary contents.

18.   (Previously Presented)   A travel information distribution method comprising:

preparing a schedule table containing destinations as reference places for obtaining travel information, position information of the destinations and distribution data to be distributed to a wireless terminal of a user in the reference places from an itinerary table of a travel;

detecting position information as a present place of the wireless terminal carried in the travel;

comparing the position information detected by the position information detector with position information of destinations shown in the schedule table prepared by the preparing step; and

distributing, by a data distributor, distribution data related to the coincident destination to a wireless terminal via a network when the position information of any destination included in the prepared schedule table is coincident with the position information detected in the detecting step by the comparison of the destination position information in the comparing step;

identifying, by the wireless terminal, information storage for storing identifying information for identifying the distribution data distributed by the data distributor;

specifying, by the wireless terminal, one of a presence and an absence of use of the distribution data related to the stored identifying information; and

notifying, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor of the distribution data specified by the specifying step after finishing of the travel,

wherein the specifying step comprises inputting, by way of an input device provided on the wireless terminal, in which operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on a display of the wireless terminal signifies the presence of use of the distribution data, and non-operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on the display of the wireless terminal signifies the absence of use of the distribution data.

19.   (Canceled).

20.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method comprising:

preparing a schedule table containing destinations as reference places for obtaining travel information, position information of the destinations and distribution data to be distributed to a wireless terminal of a user in the reference places from an itinerary table of a travel;

detecting position information as a present place of the wireless terminal carried in the travel;

comparing the position information detected by the position information detector with position information of destinations shown in the schedule table prepared by the preparing step;

distributing, by a data distributor, distribution data related to the coincident destination to a wireless terminal via a network when the position information of any destination included in the prepared schedule table is coincident with the position information detected by the position information detector by the comparison of the destination position information in the comparing step;

specifying, by the wireless terminal, the places where the user has used the distribution data distributed by the data distributor;

storing, in the wireless terminal, the places specified by the specifying step; and

notifying, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor of the places stored in the storing step after finishing of the travel,

wherein the specifying step comprises inputting, by way of an input device provided on the wireless terminal, in which operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on a display of the wireless device signifies the presence of use of the distribution data, and non-operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on the display of the wireless device signifies the absence of use of the distribution data.

21.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 18, further comprising:

transmitting, by a position information transmitter provided in the wireless terminal, the position information to a data distributor at a certain time interval, and

wherein the data distributor includes a personal schedule table containing times and places of the wireless terminal according to the travel schedule;

calculating, by the data distributor, tolerances between the position information transmitted from the position information transmitter and the schedule written in the personal schedule table on the basis of the time when the position information transmitter transmits the position information, the tolerances being based in part on a particular mode of travel being used by the user; and

renewing, by the data distributor, the schedule table for the distribution of the distribution data by utilizing the calculation result of the calculating step.

22.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 18, further comprising:

receiving, by the wireless terminal, a schedule table prepared by the scheduling step; and

requesting, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor to transmit distribution data at a distribution timing of respective distribution data on the basis of the schedule table received by the receiving step.

23.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 18, further comprising:

receiving, by the wireless terminal, a schedule table containing a schedule for distribution of distribution data;

storing, by the wireless terminal, the schedule table received by the receiving step;

comparing distribution data, a distribution time and a distribution place when the distribution data is distributed with a distribution data, a distribution time and a distribution place written in the schedule table stored in the storing step;

transmitting tolerances of the distribution time and place of the schedule table as the comparison result of the comparing step as tolerance data, and

renewing, by the data distributor, the contents of the schedule table by utilizing the tolerance data transmitted in the transmitting step.

24.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 18, wherein the distribution data is distributed to the wireless terminal by an e-mail.

25.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 18, wherein the distribution data is distributed to the wireless terminal by a file described by a descriptive language.

26.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution claimed in claim 18, wherein the distribution data includes addresses of contents on the network, and the wireless terminal accesses to the addresses to download necessary contents.

27.   (Previously Presented)   A travel information distribution method comprising:

preparing a schedule table containing destinations as reference places for obtaining travel information, position information of the destinations and distribution data to be distributed to a wireless terminal of a user in the reference places from an itinerary table of a travel;

detecting position information as a present place of the wireless terminal carried in the travel;

storing, in a tolerance table, tolerances between position information of reference positions of respective destinations and position information of border positions of respective destinations included in the schedule table prepared by the preparing step;

calculating areas of respective destinations from the position information of the reference positions of respective destinations and the tolerances included in the tolerance table;

comparing the areas calculated by the area calculator with the position information of the wireless terminal, detected by the detecting step;

distributing, by a data distributor, distribution data related to the destination area including the position information of the wireless terminal to a wireless terminal via a network when the position information of the wireless terminal is included in any destination area by the comparison of the destination position information comparator;

identifying, by the wireless terminal, information storage for storing identifying information in a storage for identifying the distribution data distributed by the data distributor;

specifying, by the wireless terminal, one of a presence and an absence of use of the distribution data related to the identifying information stored in the storage; and

notifying, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor of the distribution data specified by the specifying step after finishing of the travel,

wherein the specifying step comprises inputting, by way of an input device provided on the wireless terminal, in which operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on a display of the wireless device signifies the presence of use of the distribution data, and non-operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on the display of the wireless device signifies the absence of use of the distribution data.

28.   (Canceled).

29.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method comprising:

preparing a schedule table containing destinations as reference places for obtaining travel information, position information of the destinations and distribution data to be distributed to a wireless terminal of a user in the reference places from an itinerary table of a travel;

detecting position information as a present place of the wireless terminal carried in the travel;

storing, in a tolerance table, tolerances between position information of reference positions of respective destinations and position information of border positions of respective destinations included in the schedule table prepared by the schedule preparing step;

calculating areas of respective destinations from the position information of the reference positions of respective destinations and the tolerances included in the tolerance table;

comparing the areas calculated by the area calculator with the position information of the wireless terminal, detected by the detecting step;

distributing, by a data distributor, distribution data related to the destination area including the position information of the wireless terminal to a wireless terminal via a network when the position information of the wireless terminal is included in any destination area by the comparison of the destination position information comparator;

specifying, by the wireless terminal, the places where the user has used the distribution data distributed by the data distributor;

storing, in the wireless terminal, the places specified by the specifying step; and

notifying, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor of the places stored in the storing step after finishing of the travel,

wherein the specifying step comprises inputting, by way of an input device provided on the wireless terminal, in which operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on a display of the wireless device signifies the presence of use of the distribution data, and non-operation of the input device by the user when the distribution data is provided on the display of the wireless device signifies the absence of use of the distribution data.

30.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 27, further comprising:

transmitting, by the wireless terminal, the position information to the data distributor at a certain time interval,

storing, in the data distributor, a personal schedule table containing times and places of the wireless terminal according to the travel schedule;

calculating, by the data distributor, tolerances between the position information transmitted from the position information transmitter and the schedule written in the personal schedule table on the basis of the time when the position information transmitter transmits the position information, the tolerances being based in part on a particular mode of travel being used by the user; and

renewing, by the data distributor, the schedule table for the distribution of the distribution data by including the calculation result of the calculating step.

31.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 27, further comprising:

receiving, by the wireless terminal, a schedule table prepared by the scheduling step; and

requesting, by the wireless terminal, the data distributor to transmit distribution data at a distribution timing of respective distribution data on the basis of the schedule table received by the receiving step.

32.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 27, wherein the distribution data is distributed to the wireless terminal by an e-mail.

33.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 27, wherein the distribution data is distributed to the wireless terminal by a file described by a descriptive language.

34.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 27, wherein the distribution data includes addresses of contents on the network, and the wireless terminal accesses to the addresses to download necessary contents.

35.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 7, wherein the distribution data includes information obtained by the data distributor from the Internet by accessing addresses of contents on the Internet, and by obtaining most recent information to be provided to the wireless terminal with respect to the reference place that the user is currently supposed to be located.

36.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 17, wherein the distribution data includes information obtained by the data distributor from the Internet by accessing addresses of contents on the Internet, and by obtaining most recent information to be provided to the wireless terminal with respect to the reference place that the user is currently supposed to be located.

37.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 25, wherein the distribution data includes information obtained by the data distributor from the Internet by accessing addresses of contents on the Internet, and by

obtaining most recent information to be provided to the wireless terminal with respect to the reference place that the user is currently supposed to be located.

    38.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 32, wherein the distribution data provided to the wireless terminal by the e-mail includes information obtained by the data distributor from the Internet by accessing addresses of contents on the Internet, and by obtaining most recent information to be provided to the wireless terminal with respect to the reference place that the user is currently supposed to be located.

    39.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 12, further comprising:

        storing, in a factor table, the respective factors in accordance with dates of moving,

        wherein the calculating step comprises:

        multiplying a factor obtained from the factor table for a particular date, by one of the predetermined time tolerances corresponding to a particular kind of transport means to be utilized on the particular date, in order to obtain the tolerance value; and

        subtracting the tolerance value from the arrival time to thereby determine the updated arrival time.

    40.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution method claimed in claim 13, further comprising:

        storing, in a factor table, the respective factors in accordance with dates of moving,

        wherein the calculating step comprises:

        multiplying a factor obtained from the factor table for a particular date, by one of the predetermined time tolerances corresponding to a particular kind of transport means to be utilized on the particular date, in order to obtain the tolerance value; and

        subtracting the tolerance value from the arrival time to thereby determine the updated arrival time.

41.   (Previously Presented)   The travel information distribution system claimed in claim 14, further comprising:

storing, in a factor table, the respective factors in accordance with dates of moving, wherein the calculating step comprises:

multiplying a factor obtained from the factor table for a particular date, by one of the predetermined time tolerances corresponding to a particular kind of transport means to be utilized on the particular date, in order to obtain the tolerance value; and

subtracting the tolerance value from the arrival time to thereby determine the updated arrival time.